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Message Text

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VIENNA AND GENEVA FOR MBFR AND CSCE
INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. SATURDAY THROUGH TUESDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED
MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS AND DOMESTIC ITEMS. SATURDAY NYTIMES
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INSIDE HAD US CANCELS MEETING WITH EUROPEANS; US WILL SOON

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RELAX TRAVEL CURBS ON SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN LINE WITH STEPS TAKEN LAST MONTH BY SOVIETS; WASHPOST REPORTED GAO HOLDS 255 MILLIONS IN LOW-INTEREST CREDIT TO AID EXPORTS TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WERE UNLAWFUL, SAYING ADMINISTRATION SHOULD HAVE MADE DETERMINATION EACH OF 10 PROJECTS WAS IN NATIONAL INTEREST AND REPORTED THEM TO CONGRESS.

1A. SUNDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGED US AGAIN REBUFFED BY A UNIFYING EUROPE. MONDAY PAPERS HAD BREZHNEV ASSAILS WEST ON SECURITY TALKS; TIME MAGAZINE HAD ARTICLE ON EUROPE. TUESDAY PAPERS REPORT KISSINGER SAID BIGGEST FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEM IS EUROPE.

2. EUROPE. SUNDAY BALTSUM KEAT WASHINGTON REPORTS JUST FOUR WEEKS AFTER SEEMING TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN FRANCE AND ITS WESTERN EUROPEAN ALLIES ADMINISTRATION AGAIN IS

CONFRONTING COMMART OVER ITS RELATIONSHIP TO US, WITH STATE DEPARTMENT TWICE LAST WEEK DEMONSTRATING ITS IRRITATION WITH THE NINE. SUPERFICIAL ISSUE WAS MARKET-ARAB RELATIONS, SAYS KEAT, BUT UNDERLYING ISSUE IS: HOW WILL A POLITICALLY UNIFYING WESTERN EUROPE ALIGN ITSELF WITH US? US OFFICIALS INSIST THEY WELCOME EVOLUTION OF COMMART INTO A CLOSE POLITICAL ALLIANCE, BUT THEY WANT THE ALLIANCE TO WORK FROM THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT WILL CLOSELY COORDINATE ITS EXTERNAL POLICIES WITH WASHINGTON'S, AND THIS IS WHY KISSINGER REACTED TO HEATEDLY TO DECISION ON ARABS, UNDERMINING DECISION IN WASHINGTON FOUR WEEKS EARLIER TO PREPARE A COMMON FRONT ON INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS BEFORE APPROACHING THE ARABS, SAYS KEAT. KEAT WRITES OF TWO IRRECONCILABLE CONCEPTS: FRENCH INSISTENCE ON TOTAL INDEPENDENCE FROM US; ADMINISTRATION'S CONCEPT THAT A EUROPEAN IDENTITY, A EUROPE SPEAKING WITH ONE VOICE, DOES NOT EXCLUDE PARTNERSHIP WITH US; AND ONE US OFFICIAL POINTED OUT THAT WHAT COUNTS IS THE APPROACH. IF A EUROPEAN POSITION IS DECIDED SEPARATEDLY THEN COMMUNICATED TO US, THERE IS NO REAL PARTNERSHIP; IF PROBLEM IS DISCUSSED IN ADVANCE THEN THE ALLIANCE IS MEANINGFUL, EVEN IF THE PARTNERS SOMETIMES DISAGREE. STAKES IN ARGUMENT ARE HIGH, SAYS UNCLASSIFIED

KEAT, FOR IT INVOLVES NOT JUST POLITICAL COOPERATION ACROSS ATLANTIC BUT THE MUTUAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS THAT ALL OF THEM STILL BELIEVE NECESSARY DESPITE THE GROWING DETENTE WITH SOVIET UNION.

2A. TIME MAGAZINE HAS ARTICLE TITLED FADING WILL, FAILING DREAMS, REPORTING GLOOMY MOOD IN EUROPE WITH MOST DEDICATED PAN-EUROPEANISTS QUESTIONING VERY FUTURE OF TRADI-

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TIONAL PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY. EVALUATION THAT ECONOMIC INTEGRATION WOULD LEAD TO POLITICAL UNITY NO LONGER SEEMS INEVITABLE OR NECESSARILY DESIRABLE TO MOST EUROPEAN LEADERS. THEY ARE NOT IN MOOD FOR FORMULATING JOINT DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICIES. ONE DEEP SOURCE OF FRIC-TION IS EUROPE'S RELATIONSHIP TO US. IS EUROPE, AS MOST GOVERNMENTS DESIRE, TO RETAIN CLOSE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND DEFENSE TIES WITH US, OR AS FRENCH MAINTAIN, MUST CONTINENT LARGELY IGNORE US INTERESTS? FRENCH DO NOT ADVOCATE WITHDRAWAL OF 31O,OOO US TROOPS NOW IN EUROPE, BUT THEIR RECENT OBDURACY MAY WELL STRENGTHEN PRESSURES BACK IN WASHINGTON FOR PULLOUT.

2B. NYTIMES SPECIAL WASHINGTON REPORTS KISSINGER TOLD MEETING OF WIVES OF CONGRESSMEN AT STATE THAT BIGGEST

FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEM NOW CONFRONTING US WAS TO GET COOPERATION OF ITS ALLIES, REFERRING TO DISAGREEMENTS WITH FRANCE AND OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND GETTING THEM TO REALIZE THAT SEEMING VICTORY THEY ARE STRIVING FOR IS GOING TO PROVE HOLLOW IN ATMOSPHERE OF CONSTANT STRIFE AND ENDLESS COMPETITION. US AND WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS YESTERDAY SAID NIXON AND BRANDT HAD EXCHANGED LETTERS LAST WEEK ON PROBLEM OF CONSULTATIONS, IN WHICH NIXON HAD RAISED QUESTION IN TERMS FRANKER THAN USUAL DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE, ONE US OFFICIAL SAID, BUT ACCORDING US OFFI-IALS, NIXON DID NOT LINK LAST WEEK'S POSTPONEMENT OF US-BONN MEETING TO COMPLAINT ABOUT CONSULTATION.

3. CSCE MONDAY NYTIMES, MOSCOW, WREN REPORTS BREZHNEV ACCUSED WEST OF HINDERING PROGRESS AT CSCE BY INTRODUCING UNIMPORTANT ISSUES AND PERSONALLY APPEALED TO OTHER
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